

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 26, 28, 31-34, and 38-39 as follows:

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~~-26. A method of reducing the tendency of a paper web to curl in a paper machine, comprising the steps of:~~
~~asymmetrically drying the paper web in its thickness direction extending between the top and bottom sides of the paper web to a solids content at which curl-inducing stresses are formed in the paper web by passing the paper web through a plurality of top-felted single-tier normal dryer groups, each of said plurality of normal dryer groups including a single tier of dryer cylinders, a plurality of guide rolls disposed below and between said dryer cylinders, and a single wire transporting said web over the dryer cylinders and beneath the guide rolls so that only the bottom side of said web engages said dryer cylinders; and~~
~~subsequently applying sufficient moisture to the asymmetrically dried paper web to relax said stresses in the fiber mesh of the paper web, to thereby control curling of the web.--~~

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~~-28. The method of claim 26, wherein said guide rolls are suction cylinders.--~~

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~~-31. The method of claim 26, wherein said moisture is applied to said web immediately downstream of the location where said stresses are formed.--~~

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--32. The method of claim 26, wherein said stresses in the paper web are formed at a solids content of at least about 70%.—

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--33. The method of claim 26, wherein said moisture is applied to the side of the web not engaging said dryer cylinders.—

--34. A paper machine, comprising:
means for asymmetrically drying a paper web in its thickness direction extending between the top and bottom sides of the paper web to a solids content at which curl-inducing stresses are formed in the paper web, said means including a plurality of top-felted single-tier normal dryer groups, each of said plurality of normal dryer groups including a single tier of dryer cylinders, a plurality of guide rolls disposed below and between said dryer cylinders, and a single wire transporting said web over the dryer cylinders and beneath the guide rolls so that only the bottom side of said web engages said dryer cylinders; and
means for applying moisture to the asymmetrically dried paper web for relaxing said stresses to thereby control curling of the web.—

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--38. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said guide rolls are suction cylinders.--

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--39. The paper machine of claim 34, wherein said stresses in the paper web are formed at a solids content of at least about 70%.—